

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2049**

Chapter 344, Laws of 2007

60th Legislature  
2007 Regular Session

PUGET SOUND--MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEES

EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/22/07

Passed by the House April 14, 2007  
Yeas 94 Nays 0

FRANK CHOPP

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate April 5, 2007  
Yeas 48 Nays 0

BRAD OWEN

\_\_\_\_\_  
**President of the Senate**

Approved May 7, 2007, 9:56 a.m.

CHRISTINE GREGOIRE

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Richard Nafziger, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2049** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

RICHARD NAFZIGER

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chief Clerk**

FILED

May 8, 2007

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

---

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2049**

---

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2007 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      60th Legislature                      2007 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Select Committee on Puget Sound (originally sponsored by Representatives Rolfes, Strow, Appleton, Hunt, Springer, McDermott, VanDeWege, Seaquist, McCoy, Eickmeyer and Lantz)

READ FIRST TIME 02/22/07.

1            AN ACT Relating to Puget Sound marine resource committees; and  
2 adding a new chapter to Title 36 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**    (1) The legislature finds the challenge of  
5 developing realistic, effective, and efficient solutions to the  
6 conservation and management issues facing Puget Sound and Washington's  
7 outer coast requires calling on all available sources of knowledge and  
8 creative thinking available in the collective wisdom of Washington's  
9 citizens. The legislature further finds that both Puget Sound and the  
10 outer coast are dynamic and localized waterbodies with unique local  
11 challenges and unique local solutions. As such, it is essential for  
12 the future management of these ecosystems that citizens, through their  
13 local government, have a voice and an opportunity to share their  
14 dedication and interest in the well-being of their community's unique  
15 marine waters, while providing a valuable contribution to the statewide  
16 efforts aimed at restoring the outer coast and Puget Sound as a whole.

17            (2) The legislature further finds that federally led efforts to  
18 establish marine resources committees have proven to be an exciting  
19 vehicle for involving local citizens and community leaders in the

1 future discussions, decisions, and restoration commitments in the  
2 waters most important to the community. The existing model of using a  
3 community-based, nonregulatory organization to examine issues  
4 particular to a community's corner of Puget Sound, applying for grants,  
5 and thoroughly and fairly investigating available options and solutions  
6 has proved to be a valuable asset to Puget Sound and its communities,  
7 and is worthy of replication throughout the Puget Sound basin and the  
8 outer coast.

9 (3) In this chapter, the legislature intends to establish a  
10 structure on which interested local communities can harness the  
11 dedication, creativity, and wisdom of their residents in the form of  
12 marine resources committees. These committees are intended to  
13 complement, and not compete with or undermine, any other governmental  
14 efforts to restore and manage the Puget Sound. The legislature further  
15 intends that the department of fish and wildlife should apply the  
16 lessons learned from Puget Sound to work with county governments on the  
17 outer coast to establish marine resources committees.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1)(a) The legislative authority for each  
19 county that borders the marine waters of southern Puget Sound may  
20 establish marine resources committees consistent with the procedures  
21 outlined in section 3 of this act. Counties authorized to establish  
22 marine resources committees in the southern Puget Sound are: King,  
23 Pierce, Thurston, Kitsap, and Mason counties.

24 (b) The legislative authority for each county bordering the marine  
25 waters of the outer coast may develop a marine resources committee  
26 consistent with the procedures outlined in section 3 of this act.  
27 Counties authorized to establish marine resources committees on the  
28 outer coast are: Pacific, Grays Harbor, and Wahkiakum counties.

29 (c) Jefferson and Clallam counties may establish a new marine  
30 resources committee or a subcommittee of the county's existing marine  
31 resources committee, consistent with the procedures outlined in section  
32 3 of this act, specifically to address the marine ecosystems for the  
33 outer coast or Puget Sound, where appropriate.

34 (2) The mission of a marine resources committee created under this  
35 section is to address, utilizing sound science, the needs of the marine  
36 ecosystem local to the county initiating the marine resources  
37 committee.

1 (3) A marine resources committee created under this section should  
2 review current data and resource conservation and management programs  
3 and make prioritized recommendations for additional measures that might  
4 be necessary to enhance protection of marine resources.

5 (4) The role of a marine resources committee in developing  
6 recommendations includes, but is not limited to:

7 (a) Utilizing existing data and, to the extent necessary, helping  
8 to gather new data on the health of local marine resources;

9 (b) Making scientifically based recommendations on local candidate  
10 sites for marine protected areas;

11 (c) Working closely with local and state officials to help  
12 implement recommendations of the marine resources committee;

13 (d) Promoting public outreach and education around marine resource  
14 conservation and management issues; and

15 (e) Engaging in any other activities that the initiating county  
16 deems appropriate.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) A marine resources committee, as  
18 described in section 2 of this act, may be created by the legislative  
19 authority of any county bordering the marine waters of the outer coast  
20 or Puget Sound, in cooperation with all appropriate cities and special  
21 districts within their boundaries. Adjacent county legislative  
22 authorities shall coordinate their efforts whenever there is a mutual  
23 interest in creating a marine resources committee.

24 (2) A county may delegate the management and oversight of a marine  
25 resources committee created by the county under section 2 of this act  
26 to a city, or cities, within its jurisdiction, if the city or cities  
27 are located on the marine waters of the outer coast or southern Puget  
28 Sound and are willing to accept the delegation.

29 (3) Participating county legislative authorities must select  
30 members of the marine resources committee, ensuring balanced  
31 representation from: Local government; scientific experts; affected  
32 economic interests; affected recreational interests; and environmental  
33 and conservation interests. Additionally, participating county  
34 legislative authorities must invite tribal representatives to  
35 participate in the marine resources committee. An initiating county  
36 may delegate its appointment authority to a city or cities that have

1 received from the county the delegated responsibilities of managing and  
2 overseeing the marine resources committee.

3 (4) County residents may petition the county legislative authority  
4 to create a marine resources committee. Upon receipt of a petition,  
5 the county legislative authority must respond in writing within sixty  
6 days as to whether they will authorize the creation of a marine  
7 resources committee as well as the reasons for their decision.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The Puget Sound action team, or its  
9 successor organization, shall serve as the regional coordinating entity  
10 for marine resources committees created in the southern Puget Sound and  
11 the department of fish and wildlife shall serve as the regional  
12 coordinating entity for marine resources committees created for the  
13 outer coast.

14 (2) The regional coordinating entity shall serve as a resource to,  
15 at a minimum:

16 (a) Coordinate and pool grant applications and other funding  
17 requests for marine resources committees;

18 (b) Coordinate communications and information among marine  
19 resources committees;

20 (c) Assist marine resources committees to measure themselves  
21 against regional performance benchmarks;

22 (d) Assist marine resources committees with coordinating local  
23 projects to complement regional priorities;

24 (e) Assist marine resources committees to interact with and  
25 complement other marine resources committees, and other similar groups,  
26 constituted under a different authority; and

27 (f) Coordinate with the Northwest Straits commission on issues  
28 common to marine resources committees statewide.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Nothing in section 2 or 3 of this act is  
30 intended to expand or limit the authority of local marine resources  
31 committees established under the Northwest Straits marine conservation  
32 initiative by federal act in San Juan, Whatcom, Skagit, Island,  
33 Snohomish, Clallam, and Jefferson counties and existing as of the  
34 effective date of this section.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 6.** Outer coast marine resources committees, in  
2 conjunction with their regional coordinating entity, shall meet and  
3 consult with key state, federal, local, and tribal governments, and  
4 private interest groups to develop a collaborative process to address  
5 ocean policy issues.        This collaborative process should use  
6 Washington's "Ocean Action Plan: Enhancing Management of Washington  
7 State's Ocean and Outer Coasts" developed by the Washington ocean  
8 policy work group as a guide to begin the work of developing and  
9 coordinating state and local ocean policy and providing better  
10 management of Washington's coastal areas.

11        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 7.** Sections 1 through 6 of this act constitute  
12 a new chapter in Title 36 RCW.

Passed by the House April 14, 2007.

Passed by the Senate April 5, 2007.

Approved by the Governor May 7, 2007.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 8, 2007.